



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 14, 2002

H.R. 308 **Guam War Claims Review Commission Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on June 5, 2002*

H.R. 308 would establish the Guam War Claims Review Commission to consider restitution for those individuals who resided on the island of Guam, a territory of the United States, during its occupation by the Japanese in World War II. Under H.R. 308, the five commission members would establish eligibility requirements, determine the number of individuals who meet such requirements, and estimate the total amount that would be necessary to adequately compensate them for damages suffered during Japan's occupation. The commission would have nine months to report its findings to the Congress. To fund the costs of the commission, the act would authorize the appropriation of \$500,000.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amount, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 308 would cost \$500,000 in fiscal year 2003. Because the act would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The act does not authorize the payment of restitution; such authority would require a separate act of the Congress. H.R. 308 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.